

CLAIMS

1. A device for controlling a rear panel (4) of a motor vehicle provided with a rear boot (2), a lid (3) for the said boot (2), and a roof which can be folded from a position in which it covers the vehicle cabin to a position in which it is stored in the rear boot (2), the said roof comprising at least one rear roof part (5), characterised by the fact that it comprises on at least one of the sides of the vehicle:

- a panel support member connected to the vehicle chassis (1) by pivoting means so that the said panel (4) passes, by means of a pivoting of the said support member, from an open position in which the said panel (4) is substantially vertical and in which it leaves clear a passage for the said roof, to one of two closed positions where the said panel (4) extends substantially horizontally in a position of closure of the said passage between the chassis (1) and the front edge (16) of the lid (3) of the said rear boot (2) in the first closed position, and between the chassis (1) and the rear edge of the rear part (5) of the roof in the second closed position;

- means of moving the said rear panel (4) in translation with respect to the said support member;

- means of elastic return of the said panel (4) with respect to the said support member in the direction of the said lid (3); and

- means of abutment (13, 14) between the said panel (4) and the said rear part (5) of the roof when the latter is in the closed position.

2. A device according to Claim 1, characterised by the fact that the pivoting means are formed by a transverse rotation shaft (15) fixed with respect to the chassis (1).

5 3. A device according to Claim 1, characterised by the fact that the pivoting means are formed from two articulated arms (19, 20) connected to the chassis (1).

4. A motor vehicle, characterised by the fact that it comprises a device according to one of Claims 1 to 3.